

SITUATION REPORT NO. 31
INCIDENT NO. 97-003
DATE: February 18, 1997 TIME: 1:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Winter storms and blizzard conditions statewide.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: Warmer daytime conditions followed by freezing temperatures at night are causing roads to become icy and slippery.
4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: During the holiday weekend, N.D. National Guard snow removal crews completed four missions in Foster, Grant, Logan and Nelson Counties. The National Guard has entered its fifth week of snow removal operations with 54 Army Guard members assigned to nine missions. Dozer crews are working in seven counties, Barnes, Dickey, Eddy, Griggs, LaMoure, Ransom and Stutsman. Crews are operating 29 dozers, 27 tractor-trailers, 24 support vehicles, two graders and one loader.

The Disaster Field Office (DFO) staff has received a total of 244 Notice of Interests (NOIs) to participate in the public assistance program. NOIs have been submitted by: one rural water district; three Indian Reservations; four state agencies; 48 counties; and 181 cities.

State and federal inspectors assigned to the Devils Lake office have visited additional three cities; in total, they have traveled to nine counties and 26 cities. Inspectors at the Valley City office also visited three additional counties, bringing the total visits to eight counties and 19 cities. Minot inspectors traveled to two more cities, for a total of 11 counties and 17 cities. Bismarck inspectors visited another county and three more cities, for a total of 11 counties and 34 cities.
7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.

8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: The National Weather Service issued a Special Weather Statement for February 18 that called for a 50 percent chance of snow and blowing and drifting snow throughout North Dakota. Temperatures in the morning were in the mid-30s but expected to fall to the teens by noon. A northwest wind was expected to gust from 20 to 30 miles per hour (mph). The forecast for February 19 calls for temperatures to rise to around 40 and winds are expected to turn southwest and range from 15 to 25 mph.

The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports and photos of snow removal efforts are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: "<http://www.state.nd.us/dem>".

Raymond J. Staiger, Acting State Director